

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Somers Ave Church of Christ
4801 Somers Avenue
North Little Rock AR 72118

Phone: 501-758-5256
Fax: 501-758-1047

Office@somersavenue.org

Schedule of Services:

Bible Classes: 9:00 A.M.
Worship: 9:45 A.M.
Evening Service: 5:00 P.M.
Midweek: 7:00 P.M.

For Our Guests:

Attended Nursery at back
of the Auditorium—infants

Attended Training Room
at back of the auditorium
East side [for 1-3 Yr. olds]

Wireless Hearing receivers
are available in sound booth at
back of the auditorium.

Coming Soon

- "Build Your Home
On the Rock"
Sunday, August 22
Somers Avenue
B. J. & Tish Clarke
- 37th Annual Labor Day
Gospel Meeting
Lectureship
McAlmont Church of Christ
September 5-6
- Annual Homecoming
Minister's Appreciation
Airport Church of Christ
September 25-26, 2010
- Change for Children Cans
due back by September 19

The *OBSERVER*

Volume 42, Issue 31

August 1, 2010



Langats Moving To Dallas

Jeff, Clarice, Adrianna, Katie, & Micah

How can eight years already be past? Since October of 2002, when the Langat family moved here and came to our congregation, we have been blessed with this young family's dynamic faith and servant attitude.

Clarice has served tirelessly as a bible class teacher, coordinator and inspiration to her peers. Outside her home and the church, she is a teacher in the public schools. She has set an example as a mother & wife—who all along nourishes deep within herself the heart of a missionary.

Jeff has served faithfully as one of our deacons. His area of passion has been with helping coordinate reports from our missionaries as well as bringing to us the opportunity to help support four boys per year in Kenya so they can afford schooling. Education is their primary life-line to step out of poor conditions in the villages and find hope for the future. Of course, the gospel message is sown in along with the financial support.

Japheth (aka Jeff) runs marathons, placing high in the rankings. He is a leader in the Sons of Shamgar men's prayer ministry, and is as big-hearted as his smile. Jeff's career with Verizon is in the area of security. And it is because of the job requirements that he will be transferred to Dallas. I once used the phrase "career advancement opportunities" to describe this move. Actually, I should have just said, "His company is moving him to Dallas."

That makes it easier for me to write this, knowing that they would rather stay here. Besides, what language could I borrow to express how they will be missed? We wish for them the very best. We are happy for the congregation they find there, because we know what they'll receive from the Langats.

—Oran Burt

Family News

IN TODAY'S SERVICES

A.M.**Song Leader**

TBA

First Prayer

Jeff Langat

Scripture Reading

Don Huckeba

Eph. 5:1-12

Communion Leader

Calvin Taylor

Closing Prayer

Marc Hubbell

Nursery

Shelly Halter

Cindy Taylor

Greeters

George McDonald

Travis Haggard

P.M.**Song Leader**

TBA

First Prayer

Charles Lewis

Closing Prayer

Stephen Moore

Nursery

Judy Huckeba

AUGUST FOOD PANTRY

Canned Mixed Vegetables

Tea Bags

Sugar

Our Record

July 25, 2010

Sunday Bible Classes

194

A.M. Worship

252

P.M. Worship

165

Tuesday Night Ladies

Bible Class

7/27-10

Midweek Classes

7/28-194

Budget	\$9,080.25
Contribution	\$9,303.86
Average	\$9,709.25



Mr. and Mrs. David Alexander McDougald

Request the honor of your presence
at the marriage of their daughter

Allyson Alyse

To

Jonathan Allen Penrod

son of Mr. and Mrs. James Michael Penrod

Saturday, the fourteenth of August

Two thousand and ten

at half past six in the evening

Somers Avenue Church of Christ

4801 Somers Avenue

North Little Rock, Arkansas

Reception to follow

Woman's City Club

ATTENTION LADIES:

Tuesday Night Bible Class—7:00 P.M., in OFR—*The ABC's of a Godly Heart*.

Wednesday Morning Bible Class—August 11th at 10:00 A.M.

RESOURCE DIRECTORY: Several of our members offer professional services of which many of you may not be aware of. Our goal is to make this a very useful tool for you to refer to for information. A questionnaire was placed in each member's mailbox. If you provide any type of professional service that you would like to be included in this directory, please fill out the form **today** and return to Judy Rye.



If you are interested in playing on Somers coed team for fall softball, please contact Chad Rye as soon as possible. The games will begin in mid-August. You can contact Chad at 951-5656, or respond via email to Judy.

FAREWELL:

Today, we will bid farewell to the Jeff Langat family as they begin a new phase in their lives. There will be a sandwich supper in their honor after the evening services. Please plan to bring sandwiches, chips and desserts.

HELP NEEDED:

Volunteers are needed for the Wednesday night meal for the 1st week of the month beginning in September!

RESPONSE: Angela Drause for prayers (7/25/10)

FIRST SUNDAY EVENING OF MONTH: The young men of the congregation will be leading songs, prayers and scripture reading at 4:30 P.M. today. Come show your support.

In Our Thoughts

- **Jonathan Barfield** continues his battle with leukemia and the side effects from his chemo.
- **Janice Hutto** has recently been diagnosed with Lupus. She will see a rheumatologist on August 30th to begin treatment.
- **Charles & Carolyn Moore** (parents of Contessa Moore) are recovering at home following recent surgeries.
- **Walter Parker** (son of Allen and Tommie Parker) is receiving chemo treatments for lung cancer. If you would like to send Walter a note of encouragement, check the encouragement table in the hallway for his mailing address.

“Opening Doors”

The recently reorganized B.E.S.T. (Bible English Study and Training) Center in Phnom Penh, Cambodia has opened its doors.

The director, Julie Broyles, writes: *What a fantastic way to launch the BEST Center! Eight young men and women have come from Texas A&M to teach. I would describe them as mature, positive, hard-workers who spend a lot of their own time in bible study and preparing their lessons. It is perfect to have this number of teachers, which makes the house full of students, who in turn bring their friends to take entrance exams.*

This group leaves in less than two weeks with 4 more volunteers coming in. Nearly half the names on that schedule will have to be told they will have to wait, that is

not counting the waiting list and the ones coming to test. I think it is planting season on this side of the world!

The following are some excerpts by Aggies for Christ students who helped with the inauguration. One of the students, Shawn Freeman, writes: *If you have been worried about our safety, I ask that you reconsider your thoughts for two reasons. First, God is in control. Second, the people here are some of the nicest people I have ever met.*

The neat thing about teaching English using the Bible is that we have been able to give many people their first Bible ever. Many of my students have never even heard of the Bible. Many of them have asked me to explain what the Bible is.

Sean Ashberry, Involvement & Outreach

I am thankful to have had the opportunity to come on this trip and teach others about Christ. This first week has already inspired me greatly.

Amanda Taylor says: *The best part for me was when you could see the light bulb come on! I would try to use different English words to describe a vocabulary word. ...I would show pictures, use the English/Khmer dictionary, etc. Finally, they would understand and their face would light up and a huge smile would spread across their face! Just from today, I can already tell this is going to be an amazing experience and God is going to do such great things!*

Jared Freeman writes: *It is amazing to me how my students are so eager and willing to soak up the information in the lessons because many have not even*

heard of this so called God.

Charles Voyles and Shelly Halter will be making another trip to Cambodia this October. They would welcome anyone interested to join him in this fruitful and rewarding mission.

If you have questions about the ongoing work in Cambodia contact Charles Voyles or you can follow the progress of the BEST Center on Julie’s blog, juliebroyles1.blogspot.com, or by way of the link through the “Missions” tab on the Somers Avenue website.

Check out my blog:
seanashberry.wordpress.com

Follow me on Twitter:
[@seanashberry](https://twitter.com/seanashberry)

Are we friends on Facebook?

A Four-fold Commitment In Marriage

Oran Burt, Pulpit Minister



Learning and practicing the principles designed by God for marriage can strengthen you and your family.

This is not the normal advice you hear constantly promoted in the movies & media. Accepting today’s social standards can leave families torn & struggling.

The Fourfold Commitment

There is a fourfold commitment that makes a marriage solid and unshakable. It involves biblical principles. The message of today’s culture gives quite a different emphasis.

You may find that following God’s plan for the home isn’t very popular among current trends. But regardless of the prevailing idea that there are no absolutes, there really are some principles that are proven to enrich family life.

Commitment to the Lord

In the Psalms we read:
“Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.” 127:1

It isn’t difficult to comprehend the idea that two people actually become one in marriage. A man becomes a part of the woman he marries; A woman becomes a part of the man she marries. We know in our experience that something is special in such an intimate relationship. And we also feel the unparalleled pain when such a close bond is broken and torn.
“For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.”

(Ephesians 5:31)

Being committed to God’s way for the home brings a joy and fulfillment unlike any other.



Commitment to Completeness

A husband and his wife complete one another in the marriage relationship. And while the two are equal in the marriage, their roles are not the same. God gave man and woman to each other that they may be complete. “It is not good that the man should be alone.” (Genesis 2:18).

And as each partner fulfills his or her God-given role, the marriage is strengthened.

Commitment to Responsibility

Biblical principles clearly indicate that both the husband and the wife bear certain responsibilities. Sharing in the nurturing of family life together can produce a constant and positive experience in the home. It takes two to be one.



Commitment to Communication

Experts in the field of counseling find themselves continually addressing this ever present need. When couples cannot or do not communicate with one another, the potential for a truly powerful disruption of peace and stability is a recurring threat.

In our upcoming seminar “Build Your Home on The Solid Rock”, you will find useful information about God’s plan for the home & family which can help you in bringing harmony & enrichment to your home.

Plan now to attend this one-day seminar on Sunday, August 22, 2010, and invite your friends and family. It will be a good experience.

OUR ELDERS

Jim Akins
Tim Ashberry
Mike Hughes
Mike Penrod
Danny Rye

ELDERS OF THE MONTH

Jim Akins
Danny Rye

Available

Sunday, August 8
6:00-6:30 P.M.
Wednesday, August 25
7:15-8:00 P.M.

We're On the Web:
www.somersavenue.org

Upcoming Teen Events

Regular Weekly Activities

- Teen Room Open
Monday and Fridays
10:00am—4:00pm
- Wednesday After Bible
Study Outings
- Thursday 3:30 Disc Golf
- Friday Family Game Night
in the MPB 7:00

This Month

- August 2-8—Florida Trip
- August 15—Devo hosted
by the Hunter family
- August 22—Devo hosted
by the Ellis family
- August 29—Devo hosted
by Necessary family

Looking Forward

- September 4-6—Area
Wide Retreat

*The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face to shine
upon you and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift his countenance upon
you and give you peace.*

Somers Avenue—A place to call HOME

Summer Series 2010 Imitating Christ: Until Christ is Formed in You



David Riley

David has preached for the Mars Hill congregation since 1979. He and his wife Beverly were raised in this community.

They have two daughters and two grandchildren. David is involved in Hispanic evangelism throughout Arkansas.

He works as a director of summer camp for teens, director of the School of Biblical Studies and is sought after for area VBS and gospel meetings.

David is a dedicated worker for God's church across the state.

His topic Wednesday will be **"Imitating the Patience of Jesus"**



More Things You Can Do On Our WEBSITE:

- See pictures of recent events

- Check service assignments
- Read minister's blogs
- Print picture directory
- & much more:

www.somersavenue.org

Rain Delay

Alex Wells, Youth and Children's Ministries

On Tuesday of this past week, while the ladies evening Bible study was taking place, two of our elders, one other member, and myself met at Dickey-Stephens Park to watch the Travs.

Seated in section 214 Row D, the four of us stood as the national anthem was sung and shot the breeze as the game begun. We talked about the A's, the Orioles, and the presence of Mexican restaurants in Scotland and Chinese in Honduras.

As we moved from the 4th inning into the 5th, the sky grew dark to the south. Behind the Little Rock skyline the clouds blew in tall and ominous. The wind picked up a bit in the ball-park, and chatter picked up by those who had pulled out their cell phones to check the weather radar.

Then, in the bottom of the 5th, it came. Not a heavy rain, but a pick up from the spitting that had been coming now and

then. And with the start of the rain came a flurry of activity. As fans emptied the bleachers for higher ground, dozens of red and white t-shirts flooded the field.

The crews had the pitching mound and home plate covered in what seemed like seconds. The massive tarp used to cover the dirt of the infield was unrolled. But as they began to unfold the giant sheet of plastic, someone realized that the rain had stopped. So, for the next several minutes they unfolded, stood around, unfolded some more, refolded, and eventually packed the tarp back away for another rainy day.

After nearly a half hour rain delay, the game resumed. 5 innings down, 4 to go. The tempo of the game was a little changed after the break, but it didn't make too much of a difference for either team's score. The next couple of innings seemed to drag on forever.

Somewhere in the late 7th

inning the rain moved in again. Slowly at first, and then about as heavy as it had been before. It wasn't a hard rain, but a constant gentle rain. And the game played on.

There was no running around or unrolling of tarps—the game played on. The dirt turned to mud, most of the fans either left or returned to the shelter of the canopy, some of us just sat there and got wet.

It seemed backward to me. It seemed that there was either bad information or poor decision making. The game stopped and took a rain delay for a light shower, and then played for nearly 2 full innings through the rain.

I think there is application here for our lives and for the church, but I am out of space here. To see where I go with this one, you need to check out my blog: www.alexwellss.wordpress.com
[for those without internet access, ask me for a printed copy]

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¹Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children;

²and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.

³But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints;

⁴and there must be no filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.

⁵For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.

⁷Therefore do not be partakers with them;

⁸for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light

Ephesians 5:1-8

The *OBSERVER* Supplement

Volume 42, Issue 3 I

August 1, 2010

Living In God's Family—the church—Part 5 Ephesians 5— I must Respect the Bride

Introduction

1. The church is designed by God to be a spiritual household; a kingdom; a place for God's wisdom to be seen; a family living in harmony and causing God to receive glory and praise.
2. Ephesians, Chapter One: I Must Make Jesus Lord of My Life.
Chapter Two: I Must Appropriate The Grace of God
Chapter Three: I Must Make Known His Will (3:10,11)
Chapter 4 (and part of chapter 5) shows us that to live in the family of God, we must walk the walk.
3. Chapter 5: I Must Respect the Bride (the church). [Submissive Purity & Service]

I. We are to be Subject to _____ (Eph. 5:21)

- A. Submission is often viewed as mainly the role of the wife. (Eph. 5:22; Col. 3:8; Titus 2:5 and I Peter 3:1)
- B. But the larger use of the term in the Bible includes *servant, humility, reverence, honor...*
- C. And the bible teaches mutual submission across the spectrum: Men, women, children, Servants, fathers, elders, one another.
- D. This submission is ultimately to Christ.

II. Greatness is through _____ (Matthew 20:25 ff)

- A. Servant has strength of character. Jesus builds character in people. (John 4:7; 14:9; Matthew 8:20; Matthew 20:22; Luke 15:4)
- B. Function of a servant is a supporting role. (Expanded functionality—Acts 6)
 - I. Do nothing through selfish ambition (Philippians 2:3,4)

III. Service is On the Record (Matthew 25:31-46)

- A. Thyatira was checked on this (Revelation 2:19) & Christ knew their works.
- B. Ephesus was checked on this (Revelation 2:4) & Christ knew they had left their first love.

Conclusion:

1. Christ Himself gave us an example of unselfish service. (Luke 22:27)
2. The Bride/church/body of Christ functions as an organism, living, moving, growing.
—no ONE PART can function all alone.
—no ONE PART can do it all
3. Any ONE who is not a part of the body of Christ is not safe (Eph. 5:23)
4. I Love thy Kingdom Lord, the house of Thine abode.

Puzzle Clues

(for the fruit of the Light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth),
¹⁰trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.

¹¹Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them;

¹²for it is disgraceful even to speak of the things which are done by them in secret.

¹³But all things become visible when they are exposed by the light, for everything that becomes visible is light.

¹⁴For this reason it says,
 "Awake, sleeper,
 And arise from the dead,
 And Christ will shine on you."

¹⁵Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise,

¹⁶making the most of your time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

¹⁸And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; ²⁰always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father;

²¹and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.

Ephesians 5:9-21

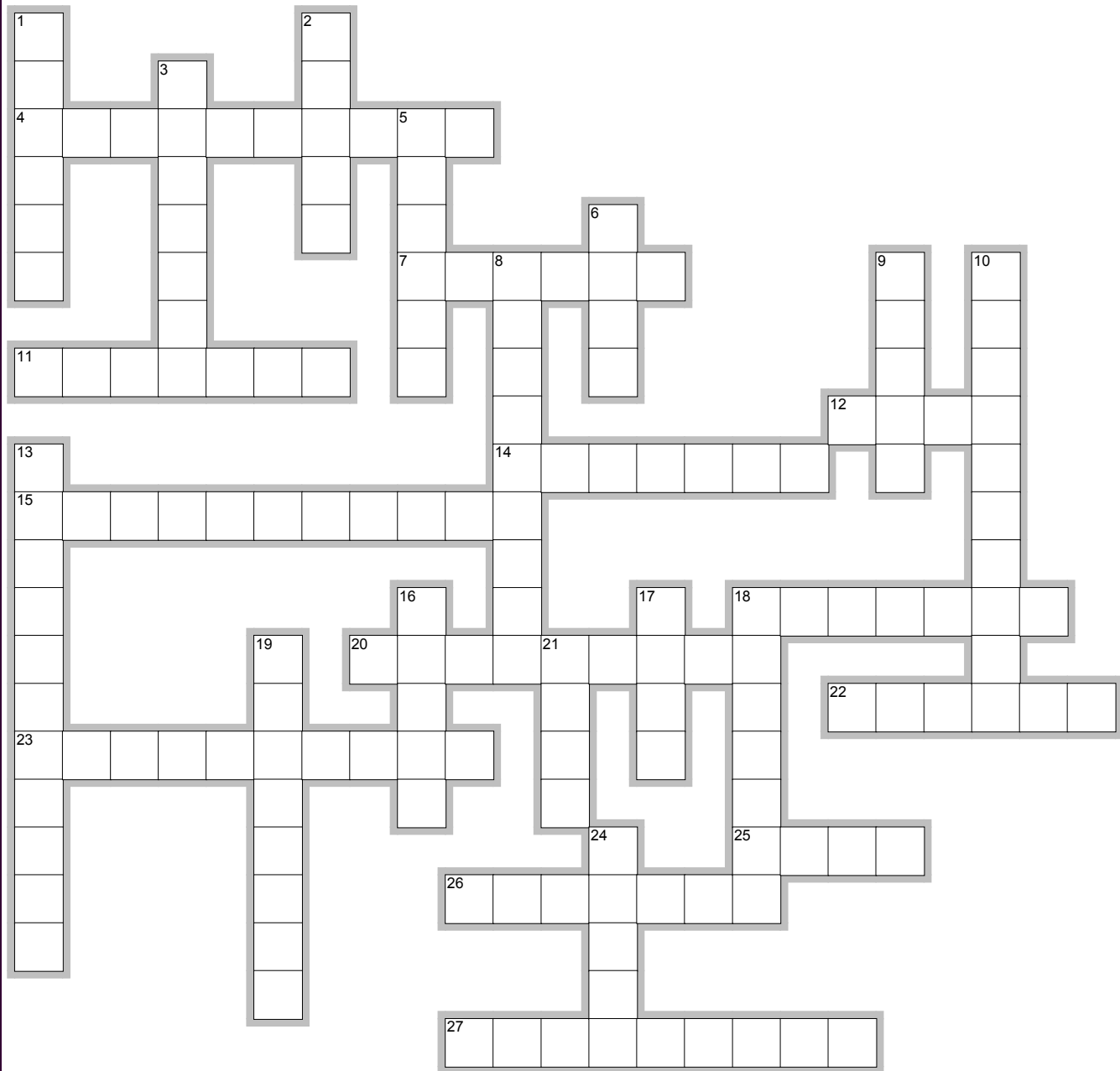
Across

4. John baptized with the baptism of _____ (Acts 19:4)
7. Jesus gave His life as one of these (Matthew 20:28)
11. A temple at Ephesus was dedicated to this goddess (Acts 19:27)
12. The church, as the bride of Christ, should be this (Eph. 5:27)
14. This person has no inheritance in the kingdom (Eph. 5:5)
15. One of Paul's traveling companions from Macedonia (Acts 19:29)
18. Paul referred to his speaking about Christ & the church this way was a _____ (Eph. 5:32)
20. church at Ephesus had left this (Revelation 2:4)
22. Song leader who is a career soldier and whose wife is a math teacher
23. Function of a servant is this kind of role
25. Seminar theme is Build Your Home on the Solid _____
26. Elders from this city wept over Paul's leaving (Acts 20:36-38)
27. Silversmith at Ephesus (Acts 19:24)

Down

1. Subject to one another in the fear of _____ (Eph. 5:21)
2. Make melody to the Lord with this (Eph. 5:19)
3. Jesus taught that greatness was through this (Matt. 20:20-28)
5. Christ is the head of this (Eph. 5:23)
6. This grew mightily at Ephesus and prevailed (Acts 19:20)
8. A man does this for his own body (Eph. 5:29)
9. Song leader who is an Energy Efficiency Training Specialist for Pualaski Tech
10. Disciples at Ephesus had never heard about this (Acts 19:2)
13. If no repentance at Ephesus, Christ would remove this (Revelation 2:5)
16. Another name for Artemis (Acts 19:27) Margin
17. Jesus is the savior of this (Eph. 5:23)
18. Our relationship to Christ's body (Eph. 5:30)
19. Before the Ephesians were Christians they were this (Eph. 5:8)
21. Wife of B.J. Clarke who will teach the ladies' class August 22
24. Christ came to do this (Matthew 20:28)

I Must Respect the Bride (church) —Ephesians 5



²²Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

²³For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body.

²⁴But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything.

²⁵Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,

²⁶so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,

²⁷that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

²⁸So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself;

²⁹for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church, ³⁰because we are members of His body.

³¹FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND SHALL BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH.

³²This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.

³³Nevertheless, each individual among you also is to love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must see to it that she respects her husband.

Somers Avenue—A place to call HOME

Answers To Last Week's Puzzle (Eph. 4)

Across

1. TRUTH—Speak this with your neighbor (Eph. 4:25)
4. LAW—Love is the fulfillment of this (Romans 13:10)
5. BODY—The church is said to be Christ's _____ (Eph. 1:23)
8. STINEBAUGH—Former elder who retired from Western Union
10. REVELATION—How God gave the mystery to Paul (Eph. 3:2,3)
11. TISH—Wife of B.J. Clarke who will speak to the ladies class
12. CORNERSTONE—Christ Himself is this part of the household of God (Eph. 2:19,20)
14. WRATH—Do not let the sun go down on this (Eph. 4:26)
16. EDWARDS—Member who turned 96 years old on his birthday July 4th 2010
17. INGRAM—Former elder who retired from the U S Postal Service
19. PEACE—We preserve the unit of the spirit in the bond of this
22. CAMBODIA—country where Charles Voyles will return to teach for a month this Fall.
24. ELEVEN—Number of weeks until our booth work at the State Fair
25. NO—Will there be evening services at 5 pm on Sunday August 22nd?
26. CHILDREN—be imitators of God as beloved _____ (Eph. 5:1)
27. UNSEARCHABLE—the riches of Christ are said to be this (Eph. 3:8)

Down

2. HOLYSPIRIT—seal or guarantee of the promise of our inheritance (Eph. 1:13)
3. KELLEY—Former elder who retired from the food produce business
6. WHITFIELD—Former elder who is an executive in the grocery business
7. LOVE—Greater than faith or hope
9. APOSTLESANDPROPHETS—God's household's foundation made of this (Eph. 2:20)
12. COOK—Former elder who served as a deacon first, and who retired from the VA
13. RYE—Only elder omitted from last week's puzzle
14. WISDOM—If anyone lacks this, let him ask God (James 1:5)
15. MEMPHIS—Location of the School of Preaching where B.J. Clarke serves as Director of Admissions
18. GRACE—Good words for edification imparts this to the hearers (Eph. 4:29)
20. EAGLES—Mount up with wings like these
21. REDEMPTION—we have this through the blood of Christ (Eph. 1:7)
22. CAN—Where I put my Change for Children money
23. BURNS—Deceased local physician after which a NLR park is named

